

**Utah Lake Water Quality Study
Steering Committee Call #8
Call Summary
November 30, 2020**

This document includes a list of future meetings, action items, and a brief summary of the discussions. Please review the action item list for tasks assigned to you and/or the Steering Committee in general. A list of attendees can be found at the end of the document.

Upcoming Meeting/Call	When & Where	Suggested Agenda Items
TBD		

I. Action Items

Meeting Summaries	Who	Due Date	Date Completed
1. Share draft Meeting Summary	Facilitation Team	December 11	
2. Review and share comments on summary	SC members	December 18	
3. Finalize summary and post to Dropbox	Facilitation Team	December 18	
SC Management Goals	Who	Due Date	Date Completed
4. Share additional suggested edits to Management Goals document	SC members	November 30	November 30
5. Develop text summarizing why cyanobacteria cell counts are not an appropriate measure for management goals	Rich M.	November 30	November 30
6. Share compiled redline version of Management Goals Document with SC	Facilitation Team	December 2	December 2
7. Respond to survey indicating support for sharing the updated Management Goals document	SC members	December 3	December 3
8. Share Management Goals document with Utah Lake Commission	Co-chairs	December 3	December 3
9. Develop text summarizing why cyanobacteria cell counts are an appropriate measure	Erica G./DWQ	TBD	

II. Decisions/Approvals

This section provides an overview of decisions made by the Steering Committee during the call; related key discussion points can be found below in the document. The Steering Committee voted twice to express their comfort level with sharing the Management Goals document with the Utah Lake Commission. The first round, at the beginning of the call, indicated the Steering Committee generally was supportive of the document but there were some issues to discuss before finalizing. The second round, at the end of the call, indicated the Steering Committee was generally comfortable sharing the document, however, the results were considered to be preliminary. The group agreed a final vote should take place, via email, following incorporation of some changes based on the conversations.

III. Meeting Recording

A link to the webinar recording can be found here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sLCRDpXuXdg&feature=youtu.be>

IV. Key Discussion Points

Draft Executive Summary and Updated Management Goals Table:

- Paul De Morgan, RESOLVE, welcomed everyone to the call before going over the agenda. He asked the members of the Steering Committee to express their level of comfort with the Management Goals document (including the Executive Summary) in a survey using the Fist 2 Five scale. Mr. De Morgan also invited members of the Steering Committee to raise their hands and share any comments they had on the document.
 - One member of the Steering Committee explained that he does not believe there is any relationship between cyanobacteria cell counts and risk to human health. He suggested edits to both the Executive Summary and the Management Goals table switching out the term “harmful algal blooms” for “chlorophyll a” (later modified to “phytoplankton blooms.”)
 - Multiple members of the Steering Committee requested that Co-chair Erica Gaddis provide information in support of using harmful algal blooms to refute the claim that there is no relationship between cell counts and toxin concentrations. The discussion exposed different interpretations of the EPA document that touches on the subject. Both Dr. Gaddis and Rich Mickelsen committed to providing statements to support their positions on the use of cyanobacteria cell counts as a measure in the future.
 - Another member of the Steering Committee commented on management goals for the Agriculture beneficial use, specifically that the main goal should include the term toxin and that the secondary goal of not clogging irrigation systems should be removed.
 - Some discussion ensued and ultimately it was agreed to make the suggested edits in the Executive Summary and the Management Goals table.
 - Several other members of the Steering Committee presented additional suggestions for potential edits to the document.

Sharing Information with the Utah Lake Commission:

- One member of the Steering Committee suggested that the document ultimately shared with the Utah Lake Commission should be considered a draft. All responses were in agreement with this suggestion.

- Following the discussion around the Management Goals document, Mr. De Morgan suggested that all requested edits to the document be compiled into a single redline version and shared with the Steering Committee in the following days for review. A survey would be sent out for the Steering Committee to vote on sharing the updated version of the Management Goals document with the Utah Lake Commission on December 3.

V. Public Comment

- David Richards (in the chat box):
 1. The EPA reference to cyanobacteria blooms and harmful effects uses Pilotto et al. paper as one of a handful of papers they used. I have statistically reviewed the Pilotto et al. paper and it showed that low levels of cyanobacteria are actually beneficial. I can make my review of Pilotto et al. available if SC or SP requests.
 2. Macroinvertebrate metric: 20 taxa 15 with > 5% occurrence taxa richness. Where did this data come from? Littoral zones?
 3. Mussel metric: Mussel tissue concentrations of toxins? The Science Panel is well aware that there are no mussels in Utah Lake. Unless someone has found them recently that I am not aware of.
 4. What is the urgency to have Utah Lake Commission to be on board? Shouldn't it wait until Science Panel and SC are in agreement?
 - Eric Ellis (response): there have been requests to keep elected officials in the loop along the way, and the co-chairs have interests in keeping the ULC up to speed as possible.
- Leland Myers: I see nowhere in the document where it addresses specifically the potential achievability of the goals, but then I do not have the draft being reviewed.

VI. Participation

Members of the Steering Committee:

- Scott Bird, Utah County Stormwater Association – Stormwater
- Jason Garrett, Utah County Health Department – Public Health
- Gary Calder, Provo City – Municipal
- Chris Cline, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service – Fish and Wildlife [*Alternate*]
- Eric Ellis, Utah Lake Commission – Co-Chair
- Erica Gaddis, Utah Division of Water Quality – Co-Chair
- Heidi Hoven, National Audubon Society – Conservation and Environment
- Christopher Keleher, UDNR – Rec, Fishing, Sovereign Lands
- Rich Mickelson, Timpanogos Special Service District – POTW
- Jay Olsen, Utah Department of Agriculture and Food – Agriculture
- Dennis Shiozawa, Brigham Young University – Academia
- Brad Stapley, Springville City - Municipal
- Jesse Stewart, Utah Lake Water Users Association – Ag/Water Rights/Water Users
- Neal Winterton, City of Orem – Municipal
- Gerard Yates, Central Utah Water Conservancy District – Water Management

Alternate Members of the Steering Committee:

- David Barlow, Timpanogos Special Service District – POTW
- Jamie Barnes, Utah Division of Forestry, Fire, and State Lands – Rec, Fishing, Sovereign Lands
- Craig Bostock, Utah County Health Department – Public Health
- Sam Braegger, Utah Lake Commission – Co-Chair
- Dave Norman, Lehi City – Municipal
- Cory Pierce, Spanish Fork Public Works - Municipal
- Mike Rau, Central Utah Water Conservancy District – Water Management of Utah Lake

Members of the ULWQS Science Panel

- Mitch Hogsett, Forsgren Associates, ULWQS Science Panel Chair
- Theron Miller, Wasatch Front Water Quality Council

Members of the Public:

- Tina Laidlaw
- Leland Myers
- Renn Lambert

Utah Division of Water Quality Staff:

- Scott Daly
- Jodi Gardberg
- John Mackey

Tetra Tech

- Kateri Salk

Facilitation Team:

- Paul De Morgan, RESOLVE
- Dave Epstein, SWCA